

CITY OF KALAMAZOO.





Published in Twelve Parts.



THE W. H. PARISH PUBLISHING CO.

1804.







PARSONS BUSINESS COLLEGE.











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SCENE ON SOUTH BURDICK STREET.

its parish number is 2,200, its seating capacity is 1,900 and its total valuation about \$50,000. It has two other outlying missionary churches in the city.

In addition to these original and older churches Kalamazoo has five Holland Reformed Churches, with a total membership of 835 and a parish attendance of 2,100, a seating capacity of 2,400, and a total valuation of \$54,000. There is also a German Lutheran Church of 75 members with a congregation of 300, and church value of \$4,000, and a newly organized society of the "Christian," or "Disciples," church.

Kalamazoo has had for years a Jewish Synagogue where the members of that ancient faith, who are among the best and most orderly of its population, have worshipped. Its membership is naturally small, its attendance about 200, and the value of its church property about \$15,000. One other, to close this long and honorable list, remains to be mentioned—the "People's Church"—as it desires to be called, with a large and handsome church edifice in process of erection, for which purpose Silas Hubbard, an old and wealthy citizen of Kalamazoo, has contributed \$20,000, a little more than half its projected cost. It is understood that this society is to interest itself in works of humanity and social progress and that its church building is to remain open for such purposes during every day in the week.

No mention has been made in the foregoing of living ministers or officers of these churches, for this is not the purpose of this work, but it is proper and truthful to say that the average ministerial ability with which they have been served in all their history has been of a high order, and that among those who have occupied the pulpits of the older churches, especially, have been some gifted men, who, as preachers and pulpit orators, have been worthy to compare with the most famous and eloquent in the land.

THE Y. M. C. A.

Among the later institutions of Kalamazoo, and the natural outgrowth of the churches, is the Young Men's Christian Association. Although the organization has existed for some years, it is only lately that through the activity and energy of the members and the generous aid of prominent and wealthy citizens a permanent building has been erected, adapted to the wants of the Association.

This building occupies a prominent site on West Main Street, adjoining the Church Square, and is four stories high, with basement, and is built with red pressed brick and sand stone trimmings. The first floor contains the reception rooms, the general and private offices, and the reading room. The second story is occupied by the parlors, and above these is the auditorium, with a seating capacity of 400. Still above, on the fourth floor, is the kitchen, dining-room and janitor's departments. There is an ample and well appointed gymnasium in the building.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The public library of Kalamazoo has been in existence since 1859, formed from the nucleus of the old township library, but it is only recently that it has come to have a building suited to its growth and importance. For years the necessity for this building had been apparent, as the